

Proposed Comprehensive Plan Policy Text Changes

Goal 3.6 Housing Standards. Ensure safe, attractive, and well-maintained residential environments, reduce the number of ~~vacant~~ boarded dwellings, and eliminate substandard housing through enforcement of the Housing Code and neighborhood revitalization.

Policy 4.5.2c. Compact Neighborhoods Core Area Parking. ~~In Core Areas of Compact Neighborhoods, the Board of Commissioners and the City Council shall provide for structured parking near transit stations. Provide opportunities for long-term parking close to the transit stations for to encourage park-and-ride commuting options, and offer limited short-term parking opportunities near retail establishments shall be encouraged.~~

Policy 5.1.1e. Historic Value of Surplus City and County Property. The City Department of General Services and the County Engineering and Environmental Services Department shall review their inventories of surplus publicly owned properties to identify those with historic values and shall determine appropriate preservation strategies.

Policy 5.1.4b. Financial Tools for Historic Preservation. ~~The Office of Economic and Workforce Development City-County Planning Department, in consultation with the City Community Development Department and the City Department of Neighborhood Improvement Services, shall investigate create a database of financial tools available for the rehabilitation of historic preservation residential properties.~~

Policy 6.1.1f. Brownfields Development. The City Office of Economic and Workforce Development shall assist groups in using and understanding the United States Environmental Protection Agency Brownfields Assessment Grant Redevelopment Program to encourage redevelopment of areas with real and/or perceived environmental contamination.

Policy 7.1.2d. Low-Impact Development. To reduce development impact on stream-water quality, the City Public Works and County Engineering and Environmental Services Departments shall keep current on and encourage low-impact development (LID) design.

Policy 7.1.4d. Alternative Transportation and Fuels for City and County Vehicles. Support alternative transportation to maintain air quality, preserve natural resources, reduce reliance on oil, and save money through lower fuel costs. The City Fleet Management ~~General Services~~ Department and the County General Services Department shall implement a program promoting use of non-gasoline “alternative fuels” in City and/or County vehicles.

Policy 7.1.5b. Energy-Saving Designs. The City General Services Department, the County Engineering and Environmental Services Department, and the Durham Public Schools shall ensure that new facilities planned by the City and County incorporate energy conservation features in accordance with Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design or other high performance or green building standards.

Policy 7.1.5e. Energy-Efficient Financing Programs. The City and County shall ~~encourage lenders to relax underwriting guidelines for homes with energy efficient features and retrofits verified by the Home Energy Rating System~~ work with community partners to develop innovative programs and financing mechanisms to reduce barriers to increasing energy efficiency in existing residential and commercial buildings.

Policy 7.1.6d. Regular Natural Heritage Inventory Updates. The City-County Planning Department shall update and maintain data on the Natural Heritage Inventory as received from the North Carolina

Department of Environment and Natural Resources as necessary to retain the accuracy of the information.

Policy 7.2.2e. Flat River Open Space Plan. The City-County Planning Department, in conjunction with ~~the City Parks and Recreation Department,~~ the County Engineering and Environmental Services Department, and the Durham Open Space and Trails Commission, shall prepare an open space plan for the Flat River basin area of Durham County. The plan shall address integrated open space objectives of continuous open space corridors, water quality, wildlife habitat protection, scenic and aesthetic considerations, recreation, and preservation of significant historic and cultural features.

Policy 7.2.2i. Open Space Collaboration. ~~The City Parks and Recreation Department and the~~ County Engineering and Environmental Services Department shall work collaboratively with the Durham Open Space and Trails Commission, local land trusts, the City Department of Parks and Recreation, and other community organizations to increase the amount of open space preserved. The County Engineering and Environmental Services Department shall establish and convene an open space coordination group, including the Durham Open Space and Trails Commission and various organizations and agencies involved in open space preservation, to meet regularly to ensure better coordination and opportunities for collaboration.

Policy 7.2.2j. Currently-Owned Real Estate as Open Space. The County Engineering and Environmental Services Department shall review County real estate holdings to identify those parcels that the County should retain and manage as open space. The City Parks and Recreation and General Services Departments shall review City real state holding to identify those parcels that the City should retain and manage as ~~open space~~ parks.

Policy 7.2.3f. Farmland Preservation Outreach. The County Soil and Water Conservation District and the County Engineering and Environmental Services Department shall prepare and disseminate educational materials regarding the value of farmland preservation to the Durham community.

Policy 8.1.3e. Triangle Regional Transit Plan. The City and County shall support planning for and protection of the transit corridors and related facilities identified through the Triangle Regional Transit Program.

Policy 8.1.4d. Development Review and Adopted Regional Bicycle Plans. The City-County Planning Department, ~~the City Parks and Recreation Department,~~ the City Public Works Department, and the City Department of Transportation shall review development proposals in relation to the 2006 Comprehensive Durham Bicycle Transportation Plan and the Bicycle Component of the most recent adopted Long Range Transportation Plan, and seek dedication or reservation of right-of-way or easements and construction of facilities in conformance with that Plan and Complete Street design standards.

Objective 10.1.1. Parks and Recreation Level of Service Standards. Establish comparable city benchmarks ~~level of service standards~~ for the provision of parks and recreation facilities to meet expressed community desires.

Policy 10.1.1a. Parks and Recreation Level of Service Standards, City. The City Parks and Recreation Department shall establish benchmarks as targets that the City shall strive towards in order to provide optimum access to recreational opportunities in the Durham community, meanwhile noting that adequate service areas for facilities are as critical as the number of facilities. The City Parks and

Recreation Department shall review the ~~numbers of level of service standards~~ benchmarked facilities at regular intervals to ensure that they address community desires for parks and recreation facilities.

Objective 10.1.2. Existing Park and Recreation Facilities. Upgrade existing park and recreation facilities to improve their safety, accessibility, and functionality, ~~and to p.~~ Provide the highest possible level of maintenance for all park facilities within existing City resources.

Policy 10.1.2b. City Parks Maintenance Standards. The City Parks and Recreation Department shall establish minimum standards for maintenance of park and recreation facilities. These standards shall ensure that Durham citizens enjoy safe, well-maintained, and aesthetically pleasing facilities. They shall include ~~minimum standards for response times for maintenance requests, an effective request procedure,~~ maintenance inspections and maintenance frequencies of parks, ~~recreation centers,~~ greenway trails, and special use facilities.

Policy 10.1.2c. City Adopt-a-Park and Adopt-a-Trail Programs. The City Parks and Recreation Department shall continue to ~~expand~~ offer its voluntary Adopt-a-Park and Adopt-a-Trail Programs, inviting citizen participation and ownership in park and recreation facility care and maintenance. Coordination of these programs shall include both the City General Services Department, including its “Keep Durham Beautiful” program, and the Durham Police Department. The department shall continue to encourage volunteers to add their services to park and trail facilities.

Objective 10.1.3. New Park and Recreation Facilities. ~~Ensure~~ Strive for access to comprehensive park and recreational services and leisure opportunities for all Durham citizens by implementing parks and recreation and greenways facilities plans and by requesting adequate funding ~~to ensure for~~ comprehensive recreational and leisure opportunities for all of Durham’s citizens.

~~**Policy 10.1.3c. Co-Location for New Park Facilities in Relation to Private Development.** The City Parks and Recreation Department shall actively look for co-location opportunities with private developments, such as large shopping centers, offices, or mixed use projects, where all citizens may benefit from shared parking or unique public spaces.~~

Policy 10.1.3d. Parks and Recreation Funding. The City Parks and Recreation Department and the County Engineering and Environmental Services Department shall identify all available funding sources to provide for adequate facilities, operations and recreational opportunities. The City Parks and Recreation Department and County Engineering and Environmental Services Department shall seek available grant funding from local, State and Federal agencies and from nonprofit foundations, and shall investigate partnerships with other departments and agencies to identify funding sources. The City Parks and Recreation Department shall continue to work with Keep Durham Beautiful as well as its own internal Parks Foundation to assist the City in several types of fundraising activities, including individual gifts to endowments for grant funding.

Policy 10.1.3f. Trails and Greenways. Durham Parks and Recreation, in conjunction with the City General Services Department and the City-County Planning Department, shall continue its development of the trails and greenways system to work toward a comprehensive system of greenway corridors throughout Durham, seeking to provide passive recreation, transportation, connectivity, and protection of linear stream-based corridors and associated wildlife habitat. The trails and greenways system shall link residential areas, schools, parks, institutions, shopping centers, and other greenway corridors.

~~**Policy 10.1.3g. Budgeting Parks Maintenance Costs.** The City Budget and Management Services Department shall, upon approval of parks and recreation capital projects, automatically add the appropriate maintenance costs into the General Services Department operations budget as requested by the Department and approved by City Council beginning in the year the project is expected to begin operation.~~

Policy 10.1.4h. City Parks and Recreation Impact Fees. The City ~~Parks and Recreation Department~~ Budget and Management Services Department shall periodically assess impact fee zones and impact fee levels to determine their appropriateness to current ~~levels of~~ service standards and population distributions and, if necessary, bring a recommendation for change to the City Council.

Policy 10.1.4i. Public Participation in Parks Planning. The City shall provide parks and recreation planning processes that include public participation by providing the opportunity for public involvement on the long range plan updates, park facility development, and recreation and leisure services activities. The City and County shall offer the opportunity for citizens to serve on various advisory groups, including, but not limited to the Recreation Advisory Committee, the Durham Open Space and Trails Commission, the Bike and Pedestrian Advisory Commission, ~~the Lyon Park Advisory Board,~~ the New Hope Creek Corridor Advisory Committee, and the Durham Arts Council.

Objective 10.1.5. Partnerships and Intergovernmental Cooperation. Coordinate and communicate when possible with all providers of parks, recreation facilities, and open space, including local, State, and Federal agencies and the private sector, to ensure that the needs of the community are met in the most cost-efficient and beneficial manner.

Policy 10.1.5a. Parks and Durham Public Schools. The City Parks and Recreation Department ~~and the County Engineering Department~~ shall develop a partnership with the Durham Public Schools Board to establish a system of School Parks that assist in the provision of active facilities, cultural education and life enrichment programs. This partnership shall enable City and County agencies to make the best use of available and existing facilities and make them available for the most public use consistent with the agency's ~~ies'~~ basic mission.

Policy 10.1.5b. Parks and Recreation Interlocal Agreements. The City Parks and Recreation Department and the County Engineering and Environmental Services Department shall investigate and expand interlocal agreements with other local, State and Federal parks and recreation providers in Durham.

Policy 10.1.5c. Partnership with the Durham Convention and Visitors Bureau. The City Parks and Recreation Department shall ~~investigate establishing a~~ continue its partnership with the Durham Convention and Visitors Bureau (DCVB) to identify programs and activities where the DCVB can help support the Department's goals and mission.

Policy 10.1.6a. Parks and Recreation Marketing Plan. The City Parks and Recreation Department shall ~~develop a comprehensive marketing plan that provides citizens with information on parks, greenways, recreation programs, and other services in Durham. This information shall be disseminated~~ information on parks, greenways, recreation programs, and other services through the Parks and Recreation Marketing Plan by means such as newsletters, program brochures, enhanced web site presence, and other media information.

Policy 10.1.6b. Parks and Recreation Public Outreach. The City Parks and Recreation Department shall continue to dedicate ~~use~~ staff to serve as liaisons with the local community, including the local Latino/Hispanic community, ~~to improve involvement and participation from this growing population group~~ and the community of persons with disabilities.

Policy 12.1.1a. City Fire Protection Response Time. Maintain the following response times:

- i. A seven (7)-minute emergency response time for the first arriving unit for 90 percent of emergency incident occurrences in the metropolitan/urban response area; eight (8) minutes in suburban and/or rural response areas;
- ii. A three (3)-minute turnout time for 90 percent of emergency incident occurrences (911 Center 90 seconds call processing time plus 90 seconds ~~enroute~~ turnout time); and
- iii. Four (4) minutes for actual travel time for 90 percent of occurrences in the metropolitan/urban response area; five (5) minutes in the suburban and/or rural response areas.

Policy 12.1.1b. City Fire Protection Equipment and Staffing. Determine strategic placement of ~~engine company ladder companies, and other~~ emergency response apparatus by utilizing fire service jurisdiction assessment and fire data analysis software. Primary considerations include call volume; call frequency; call type (Fire, EMS); and building occupancy, design, and hazard. The City-County Planning Department shall indicate when rezoning proposals are located in areas identified as deficient in fire coverage.

Policy 13.1.1d. Bulky Item Collection. The bulky items collection level of service shall be weekly for a limited number of items. ~~Roll-off container rentals will be made available for larger amounts of bulk waste.~~

Policy 13.1.1e. Household Hazardous Wastes. The City shall actively promote and continue to provide, ~~at least monthly,~~ for drop-off of household hazardous wastes, including electronic waste, for citizens of Durham and surrounding areas.

Policy 13.1.3b. Transfer Station. The City Solid Waste Management Department shall upgrade the transfer station facility at 2115 East ~~Camden Avenue~~ Club Boulevard to allow for expected growth during the next ten years.

Policy 15.2.1a. CIP Review. The City-County Planning Department, ~~in conjunction with the City and County Budget and Management Services Departments,~~ shall review the City and County's proposed Capital Improvement Programs (CIPs) for consistency with the Comprehensive Plan to ensure that capital improvements keep pace with Durham's growth, consistent with the adopted level of service standards.